



## North Branch Bicycle Trail Southern Extension

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### Existing Trail

18 miles of paved trail  
traveling through 10 communities

Chicago, Niles, Morton Grove, Skokie, Golf, Glenview, Wilmette, Northfield, Winnetka, Chicago Botanic Garden and ends at Lake Cook Road in Glencoe.



Trail Name	Miles
<b>Paved Trail</b>	
North Branch	16.9
Skokie Loop	4.4
<b>Regional Trail</b>	
North Branch	8.0
Chipulpy	1.6
Somme Loop	2.1
<b>Regional Trail</b>	
Green Bay	9.0
Skokie Valley	18.0
Rockway	8.2
<b>Old Street Trail</b>	
Sauganash	1.0
<b>Forest Preserves Trail</b>	
Forest Preserves Trail	

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### Building Regional Connections



- Wisconsin
  - Robert McClory
  - Greenbay Trail
  - Chicago Botanic Garden
- North Branch Trail**
- City of Chicago
- Chicago Lakefront Trail
- Burnham Greenway
- Penny Greenway
- Indiana




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### Southern Extension/ Connection to the City of Chicago



The Forest Preserves of Cook County is putting the wheels in motion to extend the 18-mile North Branch Trail 4.2 miles south from Devon & Caldwell to Irene Hernandez Woods at Foster and Kostner.

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### Regional Plans

The proposed trail is supported by many regional planning partners including the Northeastern Illinois Regional Greenways and Trails Implementation Plan and the Grand Illinois Trail.



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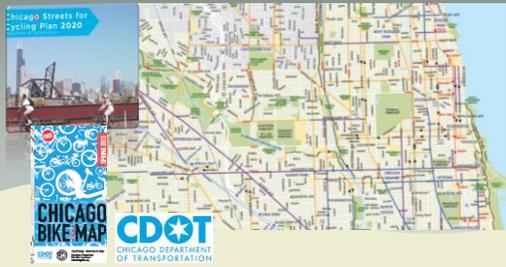
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### City of Chicago Connections

Connecting the North Branch Trail to the City of Chicago's Lakefront Trail has been part of both agencies long range plans to bring together two of the region's best used trails.



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## Funding

**The project is funded by the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program for engineering through construction**

Phase I Engineering	\$448,000.00
Phase II Engineering	\$299,000.00
Construction	\$6,590,000.00
Construction Engineering (Phase III)	\$530,000.00

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## Open House

September 2010



(22) trail alignments were studied and presented on September 2010 at a Public Open House held at Edgebrook Community Center

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## Outreach

**North Branch Bike Trail Extension**



**OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
 Location: North Branch Community Center, 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60642

**Project Location**  
 The project is located in the North Branch area of Chicago, Illinois. The project area is bounded by North Branch Avenue to the north, North Branch Avenue to the south, and North Branch Avenue to the east. The project area is bounded by North Branch Avenue to the west.

- August 2014** - FPCC Open House
- July 2014** - Edgebrook Community Association
- June 2014** - Forest Glen Community Club/ Bike Advisory Committee
- December 2013** - North Mayfair, Peterson Park and Mayfair Community Associations
- October 2013** - Forest Glen Community Meeting
- September 2013** - Town Hall meeting
- June 2013** - Field visit with Alderman Laurino, Commissioner Gainer's staff, Indian Woods and Forest Glen communities
- October 2012** - Field visit with Alderman Laurino
- November 2011** - Forest Glen Community Association / Alderman Arena
- September 2012** - Indian Woods Community Association
- December 2011** - Walk alignment from LaBagh to Cicero
- Aug 2010** - Open House notice sent to adjacent Communities
- 2009** - Commissioners and Alderman
- 2008** - Site Stewards

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### Central Avenue Crossing "New Signal"



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### Trail crossings at Prescott & Louise Avenue



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### Where we are now... April 2015 IDOT Letting



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## Summer 2015 Construction

It is anticipated, Construction will begin in the summer of 2015 and be completed in 2016.



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## Before and after.....

On-street



The brave & bold

Forest Preserve



Everyone - all skill levels

This is arguably the best trail within 30 miles of Chicago. It is an actual trail for the entire length no switching between streets and trail, it is paved and for the most part in great condition. Also the trail is relatively quiet mostly bikes and runners. Wish there were more trails like this near Chicago. -oslr1326 <https://www.trailink.com/trail-reviews/north-branch-trail.aspx>

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## Before and after.....



I am also lucky enough to live only 3.5 miles away from the North Branch trail. The trail runs along the North Branch of the Chicago River and Skokie Lagoons and also the Chicago Botanic Gardens. The trail is a hidden gem for many Chicagoans, it's quiet, not crowded and the scenery is so beautiful and relaxing that I'm not sure I'll ever get tired of it. <http://runchiblog.wordpress.com/2013/09/04/where-i-run-wilmette-SaraBurg>



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## Future Outreach & Support

Support is welcomed to ensure project is successful completed.

Website: [www.fpdcc.com/NBSTE](http://www.fpdcc.com/NBSTE)

Send support letters:  
Arnold Randall, FPCC General Superintendent

Project Manager:  
Pam Sielski [pamela.sielski@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:pamela.sielski@cookcountyil.gov)

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## North Branch Bicycle Trail

It's a great place for a kid who isn't completely at ease on a bike to practice and for a bigger kid to really ride without thinking about cars.

-Chicago



This is a great trail for a relaxing ride. It's an oasis of calmness and beauty in the city.

-Mike E.



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